

Mat-Su Monitor

May 2013



Dr. Vandever with a sample of former students at her retirement party.

Once In a Lifetime

By Jake Magoon

The Mat-Su College community is celebrating the tremendous good fortune of having been home to a professor of such positive influence that one might never see one like her over the span of a single lifetime. I am referring, of course, to Dr. Jan Vandever – mathematics PhD and, for many years, instructor of College Algebra through Calculus II here at Mat-Su College. No ordinary instructor, it's well known that Dr. Vandever has an unofficial fan club; it would seem such things crop up when you treat your students like adults, and encourage them as much as you challenge them. Years ago, I shared a sample of graded work that had been returned by Dr. Vandever with my math-teaching mother, and received the assessment that: "You could

attend any college in the country and you wouldn't necessarily run across a teacher like her over the course of your entire undergraduate career." Unfortunately for those students who have not yet taken a course taught by Dr. Vandever, it would appear you have missed your chance – though she would prefer to still be teaching, circumstance intervenes to stifle that reality, and so now we simply count ourselves grateful that circumstance allowed our paths to cross.

For those of you who never had her class, talk to her committed former math students; talk to friends, coworkers, and just about anyone who knows her – they all agree: you could go through life anywhere, and you wouldn't be guaranteed to ever run into a person like Jan. Some instructors teach because it's a job and their passion is focused elsewhere in life, or are ground down into apathy by apathetic students. Many competent instructors teach the material, take pride in their craft, and may be remembered by former

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Machetanz Mania

By Denise Reeve

Registration is now open for the Matanuska-Susitna College 3rd Annual Machetanz Art Festival (MAF). Originally designed as a co-operative endeavor between the college and local artists, the festival has morphed to meet public demand for art education here in the Mat-Su Valley. In a recent interview with Felicia Desimini, professor of art at MSC and director of the Machetanz Art Festival, I learned more about the expanding scope of the MAF. According to Desimini the goal is to bring affordable art experiences to

Alaska (specifically the valley). In the first two years, the festival consisted mostly of talented local artists teaching workshops, either half or full day, in painting, beadwork, mosaics, and other media. With the popularity of the Machetanz family name as well as the enthusiasm from the workshop participants, this year the festival will be hosting extended four-day workshops.

Renowned artist Dean Larson, originally from Palmer, will share his talent and affinity for the American Realist movement, a genre he has

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New Course Offerings

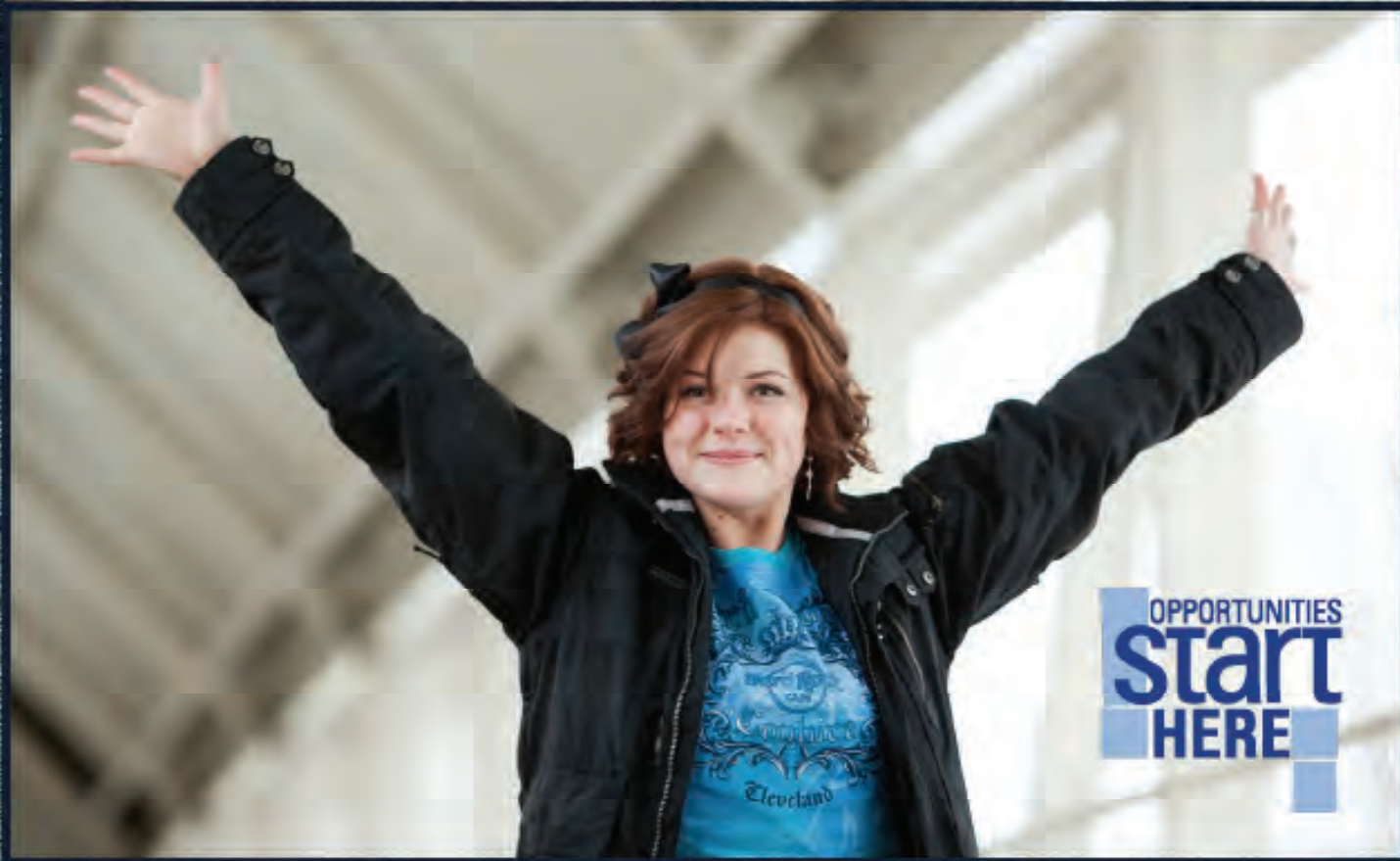
By Stephan Warta

The Math Department is offering new courses this fall! Dr. Heather Allan is teaching Mat-Su College's first online College Algebra. The course is live. Dr. Allan taught online Algebra classes via the internet for two years at Texas A&M and is already receiving calls about the offering. Another offering is Statistics A253 this summer and then every consecutive spring. This is a very important class for BS students and KPC currently offers it via distance education. Two new Business Mathematics classes will be offered in the upcoming academic year—Finite Mathematics A172 will be available in the fall and Applications of Calculus A272 in the spring. This is the first time A272 has been taught at Mat-Su College. In addition to these classes, Dr. Allan is looking at offering

Calculus 3 and upper-level statistics and probability. She asks any and all students to let her know about what courses they want to be offered. Her office is in Snodgrass Hall, and her office number is 907-745-9757.



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Lifetime

Continued from front page

students fondly for their proficiency and effort pertaining to a particular subject. For very very few however, the art and craft of teaching is not simply a job, and is not simply an opportunity to be an example of competence; for some, teaching is about forever changing the lives of their students, understanding that every set of eyes looking from behind each desk has an unknown future. Fortunate to encounter even once in an academic career, these rare individuals will be forever adored by their students for never failing to be the most steadfast, committed person in the room; Dr. Jan Vandever is one such rare individual.

Perhaps part of why Dr. Vandever is thought of so fondly by former students is because she always wanted to be a teacher; not merely an individual who shows up to work in the field of instruction. What is it about taking a class taught by Jan Vandever that made it such an influential experience? The primary destroyer of the college level educational experience amounts to a negative feedback loop of apathy from the student, to the instructor, and back again; when a student enters a classroom for the first time and it is evident that the instructor has given in to the apathy of the students the student is less likely to feel in any way excited or inspired to take the a class. Thankfully for all of us who managed to have Dr. Vandever as an instructor, this was certainly not a problem.

I can speak with great personal certitude that Dr. Jan Vandever is responsible for my current status as a mathematics major, and it was she that made it possible for me to become a mathematics tutor; I highly suspect there are many similar

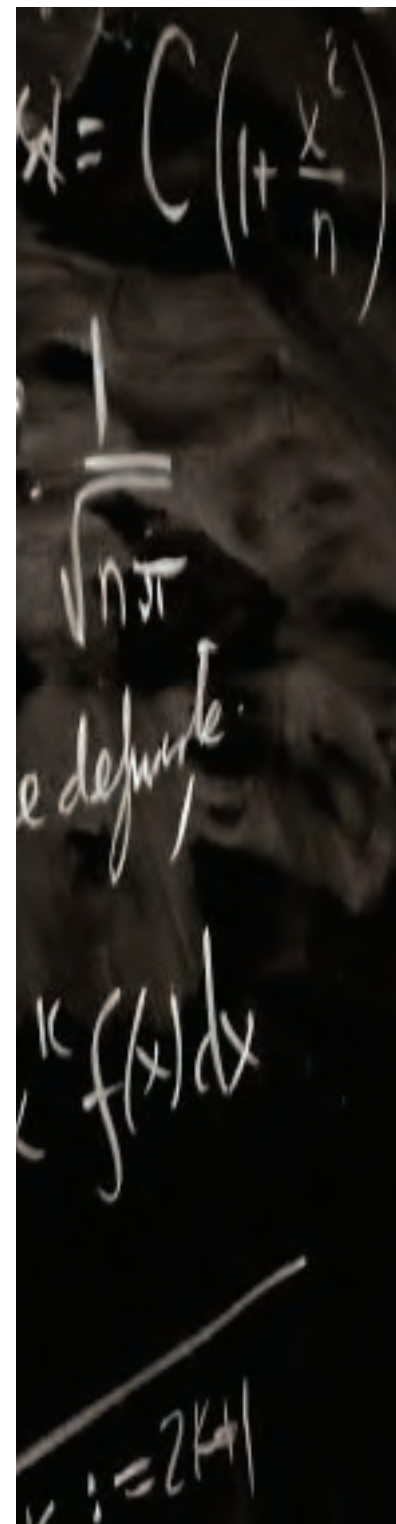
stories. The differences between Dr. Vandever's instruction style and those of the apathetic instructor make a substantial impact upon the lives of the attending students. Prior to my taking a class with Dr. Vandever, I was very anxious, passionless, underconfident, and unsure in regards to my academic field of interest and future. It was Dr. Vandever that enabled me to see the beauty and challenge in mathematics. However, what distinguished Jan from many

It was Dr. Vandever who enabled me to see the beauty and challenge in mathematics.

other instructors more than anything else were the specific undercurrents of her character: Jan Vandever let us know what she expected, and while she expected a lot, her appropriate mathematical rigor when it came to grading combined with her constant support resulted in opportunities for students who previously had no math confidence whatsoever (like myself) to put forth honest work and truly earn every A they received. Dr. Vandever reminded us students on a consistent basis of her availability during office hours, and would often show up early before class in order to assist students with the comprehension of mathematical concepts. Despite student whining and howling, Jan consistently held steadfast (in regards to her grading methodology) in the interest of the students.

Dr. Jan Vandever's legacy of instruction is one in which she will be remembered for the fact that she absolutely gave her 100% best

every day, and provided students with regular support. In addition, Jan's force of will was able to single-handedly put apathy in its place, seeing her compromise her principals in the name of student apathy. When you took one of Dr. Vandever's courses, you had the experience of building up ones mathematical "muscle-memory" and self-esteem via homework and semi-consistently correct feedback – in my case, by treating me (and others) as an adult, by believing in me and being brave enough to make the work hard, Dr. Vandever provided her students with the opportunities to prove themselves wrong about their own mathematical doubts. It is precisely this rapport of trust and dignity between instructor and students, this seriousness of purpose, and respect enough to be rigorous, that makes Dr. Jan Vandever truly a master teacher. We were all incredibly lucky to be her students, and I know that 40 years from now, the magnitude of one instructor that didn't give up by the name of Dr. Jan Vandever is certainly set to have one of the single most powerfully positive influences over the course of my life. She is completely representative of the power of one individual to influence many lives over a career spanning decades. Dr. Vandever has proven to us the power even single individuals have to impact many lives, understanding perhaps that all it takes is effort and sincerity to begin making a difference in lives.



04 ARTS, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT



Gerygone & Twig Review

By Robert Rootes

The opportunity to see the evolution of something wonderful is always exciting. Recently, my family and I attended the celebration event for Gerygone & Twig's debuting album, *The Slee-Py*. The album is filled with poetry and fun. The energy of the Mat-SU Valley youths was palpable at the First Presbyterian Church in Wasilla on Friday, April 5.

Gerygone & Twig's performance was a joyful experience, where they shared several hits off their debuting CD, as well as unreleased songs. There was original artwork by Rainy Hastings, in addition to a performance by Marching Band Solo. With poetry slams by Ian Hendren, Dyllan Adams, Grace Kari, and Rainy Hastings, the night was memorable and comfortable, surrounded by friends and family.

Gerygone & Twig's *The Slee-Py* is currently available at gerygone & twig 2013 facebook.com, through their email at gerygoneandtwig@live.com, and through instant download at iTunes.

Guaranteed to be a surprise and uplifting event, Gerygone & Twig's next performance is on April 27 at 3:00pm at Jitters in Eagle River. Do not miss out on an opportunity to see Grace, Alexander, Rainy and Brandon perform innovative Indie style music.

Caribbean Cultural Experience at Mat-Su

By Denise Reeve

The Dominican Republic offers a juxtaposition of a poor populace but very rich musical culture. Bachata music and dance heralds from the lower classes of Dominican people (Mauleon, 2013):

"Not even regarded as a style until the 1960s, the Dominican bachata is the country's slow, romantic music genre developed in the poor and humble communities. Primarily a vocal music with guitar accompaniment, bachata emerged during the rise of the Cuban bolero in Latin America and the Caribbean, and became the expression of bitterness and nostalgia in the Dominican Republic. Yet the bachata was looked down-upon by middle and upper-class Dominicans.

The word "bachata" refers to the rowdy, lower class parties in some of the poorest neighborhoods, and the music—although seemingly romantic—...Many songs reflected the undesirable topics of poverty and prostitution, yet most relied on the tried and true themes of love and betrayal. Dominican radio stations such as Radio Guarachita began to promote the music during the 1960s on a limited scale.

The emotion and culture conveyed by this music is very unique and the dance greatly adds to the experience. The most familiar Bachata song "The Promise" performed by Usher recently hit the top 40, bringing light to this otherwise overlooked genre.

On June 1st, Matanuska Susitna College proudly offers the Dominican Music & Dance Festival highlighting Bachata

and Meringue music. This event features Joan Soriano, known as the "Duke of Bachata". Hailing from the countryside near Santo Domingo, Soriano is the 7th of 15 siblings in an accomplished musical family. Received with world acclaim, Soriano has recently returned to performing with his brother Fernando and his sister Griselda. The dance festival brings this Caribbean experience to the Mat-Su Valley with the help of Alaska Dance Promotions, iASO records and Mat-Su College (in cooperation with UAA Multicultural Center).

This is a family-friendly event with dance lessons from 4:00-5:00 pm, music performances from 5:00-6:00 pm and again from 6:30-7:30 pm. During intermission Alaska Dance Promotion will offer Bachata dance performances. This is a great opportunity to enjoy an evening of culture and fun right here in the valley.

Tickets (\$10) are available online at matsu. Alaska.edu/DMDF or at the MSC Campus Cache.



An advertisement for Matanuska Valley Federal Credit Union. It features a smiling woman with dark hair and glasses in the foreground. In the background, there are bookshelves. Text overlays include "MAKE MONEY SAVE MONEY JOIN TODAY!" in green and white, and "NO FEE ATM LOCATED IN THE CAFETERIA FOR MEMBERS!" in white. At the bottom, there is a logo for Matanuska Valley Federal Credit Union, the website "WWW.MVFCU.COOP", and a small disclaimer: "This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration."

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MAT-SU VALLEY FRONTIERSMAN

April in Alaska

By Ruth Jacob

Just in case no one noticed, April is here! That wonderful time we Alaskans call Breakup. When ice on the rivers melts, and goes out to sea, people banded together for winter warmth, suddenly find they have nothing in common. Spring, sunshine and taxes are upon us collegians, but not necessarily in that order. Some of the best time honored Alaskan traditions occur this season, and not all of them widely celebrated. For example: During this last month of Spring Semester, I've noticed more and more people wearing flip-flops and other summer wear. This is part of a phenomenon I like to call: *wishful seasoning*; "If I dress like its spring, maybe Mother Nature will realize her mistake and send down some sun." There are many such wishes abounding this season, another example is '*wishful planting*'. The wishful planter is a nature lover exhibit signs of a wishful planting; such as: hoarding seed packets, and wintering plants over in the house



Frigidity — arguably subjective.

on any available flat surface. I have a friend who as we speak, is growing zucchini in her dorm room at UAF. The wishful planter subconsciously hopes that by attempting to grow a variety of plants indoors, Mother Nature will get with the program and make the weather nicer and allow them to plant outside.

We all have high hopes for the season, yet every year by the time April rolls around, we pour all of our winter frustrations into expectations of spring. No matter what we do though, remember: each day the sun will shine a little more, the snow will melt a little more. The semester will be over and there will be much rejoicing in the kingdom. Then we'll have all summer to field ridiculous questions from tourists.

Eta-Aquarids Meteor Shower

By Sarah Frances Tuttle

Meteor showers are predictable events, and happen frequently throughout the year. The Eta-Aquarids meteor shower is an annual event that graces our skies. This year the Eta-Aquarids shower will light up our night skies from April 18th to May 28th, with the peak date being the night of May 5th and the morning of May 6th.

So what exactly is a meteor shower? Meteor showers are the result of Earth passing through clouds of debris left behind by comets. When a comet orbits around the sun, it

leaves behind clouds of meteor sized debris. This debris spreads out along the path of the comet, and can be seen as the tail as the comet passes by. If the comet crosses paths with Earth's trajectory, then Earth will pass through the cloud of debris. Each year Earth will return to the same cloud as we orbit around the sun. The Eta-Aquarids shower happens to come from the popular Halley's Comet.

The best time to view meteors is just a few hours before dawn; 04:00 is ideal for the most meteors per hour. The Eta-Aquarids shower

will radiate from the constellation Aquarius. Here in Alaska we're at such high Northern latitude that Aquarius won't peak over the horizon during the meteor shower. We will not see the epicenter of the shower, but the meteors that we do see will be entering the atmosphere at a shallow angle and therefore should produce nice long tails.

On the night of May 5th at midnight the moon will be a waning crescent. However, if you live in a heavily populated area, or are surrounded by streetlights, this will affect how many meteors you'll see. If you can, get out to a dark spot and you will be greatly rewarded. You can still see a good show out in your own backyard.



Halley's Comet making its rounds.



The Carbon Crew and Paramedics Clubs Congratulate the Graduates 2013

Occupational Endorsement Certificates

Office Foundations

Taylor Rae Buettnier
Minah Donaldson
Maia Britt Hatter
Rae Jean Maxwell
Sarah Laine Sandstrom
Adam W Richardson
Pao Hua Vue

Office Support

Taylor Rae Buettnier
Minah Donaldson
Maia Britt Hatter
Rae Jean Maxwell
Pao Hua Vue
Patricia Jean Wickham

Bookkeeping Support

Maia Britt Hatter

CISCO Certified Network Associate

Gregory Lewis Bultron
Cody James Lyons

Digital Media

Adam W Richardson

Residential and Light Commercial Heating & Ventilation

Commercial HVAC Systems
Residential and Light Commercial Air-Conditioning Refrigeration
Commercial Refrigeration Systems
Jeremy Lee Casey

Veterinary Assisting

Leila May Congdon
Albree Mae Forrester
Cecilia Rose LaMere
Meghan Alexa McCoy

J. Riley Oglesby
Monica Jean Rode
Sara Jane Stahley
Erica Faye White

Undergraduate Certificates

Refrigeration & Heating Technology

Spencer David Lewis
Robin A. McCarty

Associates Desgrees

Associate of Applied Science - Accounting

Jamie Marie Keller
Jenny Alicia Naujoks
Alena Pilipaka
Ashlee Roxann Stam
Leah Marie Sheldon

Associate of Applied Science - Architectural & Engineering Technology

Melody Ann Hansen
Carl Randall Hardin
Jacob Dylan Erik Mintum

Associate of Applied Science Comp. Info. & Office Systems

Cassandra Lynn Archibald
Andrea R Berg
Minah Donaldson
Elena A Martusheff
Pao Hua Vue

Associate of Applied Science Computer Systems Technology

Gregory Lewis Bultron
Cody James Lyons

Associate of Applied Science General Business

Sierra C Gosch
Cassandra Rose Marie Grennan
Melissa Rae Haken

Corry James Muffoletto
Alena Pilipaka

Associate of Applied Science Human Services

Deirdre L. Banachowicz
Angela Marie Creegan
Kimberly Rachel Dierz
Karryle Ann Ferguson
Serena T. Frazier
Michael F. Gorsch
Charlene Anne Holloway
Amy Brooke Lalor
Erin Maria Leaders
Slade E Martin
Jeri D. McDonald
Russel Suzette Sampson

Associate of Applied Science Paramedical Technology

Paula Michelle Archer
Carmen Emily Cheney
Nathan Lee Durbin
Jeffrey Scott Hall
Jordan West Lingo
Samantha N. Lundebj
Chase Samuel Perrins
Bryan H. Roerick

Associate of Applied Science Refrigeration & Heating Technology

Jason Lavern Brewington
Adam Joseph Hillton
Chad A. Petrie

Associate of Applied Science Small Business Administration

John K DeLoach
David A. Johnson

Associate of Arts

Breanna Drew Arbett
Heather T. Ash
Nichole Marie Asplin
Brionne Alessandra Benitz
Jennifer Leigh Bigelow

Devan Kathryn Blohm
Joshua Robert Bowen
Dewaine E. Brown
Brooke Alexandra Burkett
Preston L. Carpenter
Kristina Dawn Cassidy
Amy Lorrain Childers
Shannon B. Clark
Whitney Faye Cordell
Michelle Jean Crow
Emily Rose Crowell
Jessica E Deckard
Garret William DeWinter
Catherine Marie Dowell
Connie Jean Downing
Candice Valerie Flanders
Albree Mae Forester
David K. Fuller
Michelle Marie Gallant
Robert J. Gauthier Jr.
Sven Gelbhaar
Rachel Fern Gittlein
Carrie Lynn Given
Louisa Carol Good
Amber Marie Halsey
Shoshana K. Hausmann
Leah Marie Hawk
Ramona Lee Hedgpeth
Summer Pearl Horton
Toni Gail Jacobson
Ellen Nicole Jeffries
Cameron Alexandra Jensen
Matthew John Jensen
William Gregory Johns
Lynsey Jacklyn Johnson
David Allen Karwetski
James Waldron Knight Jr.
Katrina Anne Knowlton
Sarah Janice Knudsen
Mariah Layne Knutson
Jessica Andrea Lopez
Victoria D Loughran
Melissa Gayle Mallett

Associate of Arts cont.

Spencer Margaret Massey
 Timothy J. McCullough
 Becky Joy Menefee
 Jeffrey Dennis Mitchell
 Robyn Leigh Moe
 Sharilyn Anne Moistner
 Christopher R. Nelson
 Jennifer Elizabeth Renae Newman
 Mark Allan Oathout
 Brittany Shawn Ormquist
 Joanne Michelle Pelletier
 AnnaGrace Surelia Peters
 Ahriel Marie Porter
 S. Denise Reeve
 Jennifer Marie Ringus
 Sinja Kay Roycroft
 Lisa Yvonne Scott
 Kevin Darel Smith
 Stacy Dianne Swindells
 Theresa C Thomas
 Marianne Denise Turner
 Victoria Renae Turner
 Grace Eden Valley
 Stephen Nathaneal Warta
 Katherine Camille Weaver
 Porter Mark Whitear
 Samuel Mark Williams
 Amanda Ann Woods
 Edward Advin Zudell-Powell

Graduates also participating in MSC's Commencement

UAA College of Business & Public Policy
 Certificate - Logistics & Supply Chain Operations
 Samantha Lynn Terry

UAA College of Education
 Associate of Applied Science
 Early Childhood Development
 Christina Sue Garcia
 Monika Lynn Johnson
 Vivian Victoria Ramsey

UAA College of Health Occupational Endorsement Certificate

Medical Office Coding
 Catherine Marie Dowell

Associate of Applied Science Nursing

Holly Kay Anderson
 Kaila Jo Hayes
 Rosalind Marie Simmons
 Marie Teresa White
 Bachelor of Human Services
 Kathryn Ann Derendinger
 Jennifer Saunders Martin
 Angela Gayle Morton
 Patricia Lynn Riggs
 Bachelor of Social Work
 Summerbreeze Hutchins

UAA Community & Technical College

Bachelor of Science, Technology
 Dawn M. Adamson

UAS School of Education

Master of Education,
 Mathematics Education
 Laurie Dawn Nielsen

UAS School of Management

Bachelor of Business Administration
 Beate Couturier
 Zachary John Levi Ratzlaff

Taft Law School

Juris Doctor
 Lisa Joy Hart



Mat-Su College

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE



Student Services Positions:

Academic Counseling (Temporary)

Adjunct Positions:

Logistics

How to Apply:

Visit the Mat-Su College website:
<http://matsu.alaska.edu/>

Type in "Employment" on the MSC home page under the search option.

Select the link for "UAKJobs.com"

UAKJobs.com is the university system electronic recruitment process that allows applicants to search for employment opportunities based on location, job type or job posting #



If you need assistance:

Please contact
 MSC Human Resources
 at (907) 745-9725

The University of Alaska is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Applicants needing reasonable accommodation to participate in the application and screening process should contact the Mat-Su College Human Resource Services Coordinator at (907) 745-9725

Machetanz

Continued from front page

helped to revive. This workshop is very affordable, offered with four days of instruction for merely \$250! Larson is the artist who created the portraits of the past Matanuska-Susitna College Directors prominently displayed in the foyer on campus.

Local glass artist and longtime MSC instructor, Karen Urroz, is teaching a four-day mosaic workshop. Urroz wants participants to think outside side of the box when it comes to supplies; she encourages them to bring in any media, cherished broken china, pottery, vintage items, etc. as well as their original drawings (approximately 16" x 20") to develop a project.

This year's short workshops include: Athabascan style beadwork, digital photography, silk painting, oil, watercolor, and sumi-e (pronounced soo-mee-ay) painting, drawing and pastels, as well as printmaking and mixed media. No art experience is required, just the will to learn. For detailed information regarding all artists and workshops please see matsu.alaska.edu/MAF. To quote Desimini "we are fortunate to live in this valley, where the arts are celebrated...[and] to work with the talented artist-instructors here at the festival, who share their talents, passion for art, and commitment to the artistic process to nurture development of our individual artistry." Register now, space goes quickly!

Faculty Review: Michael Fry

By Stephan Warta

Professor Michael Fry is an adjunct Physics professor at Mat-Su College. He is the only professor teaching Physics lectures at Mat-Su College this semester, and he teaches Physics A123 and A124 in sequence. Outside of college, he is a retired fighter pilot and currently teaches at Palmer High, where he has taught eleven years. He started working for the college because he needed more income and wanted to experience what it is like to teach adults. He does not know how long he will continue to teach at Mat-Su.

Fry grew up in Bremerton, Washington, and he has traveled all around the world while working for the United States Air Force. He has lived in many of the United States as well as most European Countries, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, Iraq, Singapore, and Korea. In short, he has been everywhere but Africa and South America. All of his traveling has drastically broadened his understanding of the world and has enlightened him as to the thought processes

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Ballroom Blitz Semi-Formal Dance

By Timothy Steenhout

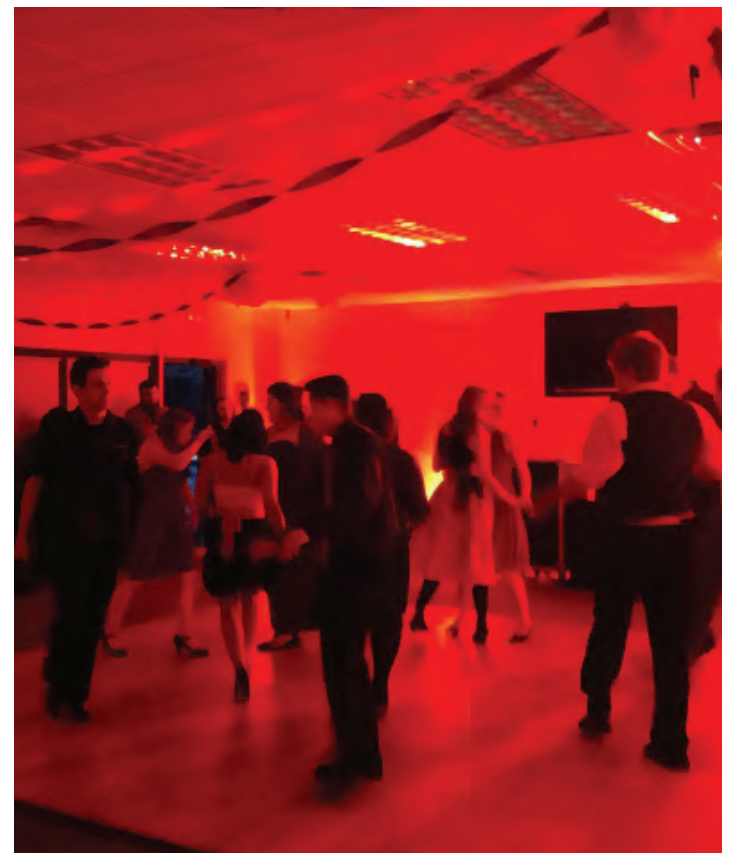
Sound check...1...2...3, decorations up, tables and chairs moved, dance floor set-up, students paired off, back lighting placed and DJ is ready! That is how the first college dance in at least ten years kicked the night off.

The dance was named the Ballroom Blitz Semi-Formal Dance, after the upbeat and crazy Glam Rock song "Ballroom Blitz" by Sweet. There was a misconception that the dance was limited to Ballroom style dances, but this was definitely not so.

There were many various styles of dance and music that night in the

campus Café: there was Macklemore's Thrift Shop, international sensation Gangnam Style by PSY, the Electric Slide, and showcases of Tango, Waltz, and Swing by the amazing students and staff of Mat-Su College. Even our very own Mat-Su College Director Talis Colberg was, in good humor, dragged onto the dance floor by students.

The dance was sponsored by the Mat-Su Student Government Council, planned by the Mat-Su Dance club and made possible by the Art club and the wonderful staff and students of Mat-Su College. We would like to also give a special thanks to R&R Productions for generously supporting the dance, putting on a wonderful show and providing an outstanding DJ who happens to be a Mat-Su student as well.



Faculty Review: Michael Fry

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of different cultures.

Fry went to college at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he earned his Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering. He earned his Masters of Arts in teaching at UAA. He does not plan to pursue any more education. In addition to this formal education, he has had a vast amount of special training, which makes him an excellent professor. While working in the Air Force, Fry was an F-15C Evaluator and Instructor Pilot. In blunt terms, he taught adults to fly, kill, and handle life and death situations. He also raised eight kids and other foster children which gives him much experience working with children. In high school, he is an AP instructor and a member of International Baccalaureate. He writes tests, grades work, and tutors AP students for both of these organizations. Through these experiences, he has had the opportunity to work with many excellent instructors and learn which test questions are good and which are bad. Fry is a member of the National Math and Science Institution and works with CAPS in the Mat-Su school district to teach teachers.

Fry entered teaching because he felt love, respect, and admiration for those who had taught him and he wanted to help people learn and give back to the community. His teaching philosophy is "modified constructivist". According to Fry, a student must construct their own knowledge, and one's experiences create that knowledge. He believes his job is to get the student to connect to the material taught – not through directed teaching. In the classroom, he questions students about presented information and encourages active

learning. The greatest stresses that Fry experiences while teaching is not enough time in the period and lack of student commitment. The greatest problem he feels teachers face is the lack of recognition that much of learning depends on student commitment, and the standard is lowering for the student instead of the student rising to the standard. He raises the question: "What is the end goal – the grades or capable students graduating?" Fry recognizes that teachers have a huge amount of responsibility today and he deals with it by spending the extra time preparing well before class, and only once everything is ready will he begin to handle the students. When asked how he keeps his temper, Fry responded, "I don't know that I do." He goes on to say he tries to keep things humorous, realizes that he is no one special, and understands that students have bad days too.

"Campus Life"

By Denise Reeve

Your elected student government leaders here at Matanuska-Susitna College, along with others, form a governing body known as the Mat-Su Student Government Council (MSC SGC). Leadership is often defined as a position of service. Yet another definition of leadership is knowing what needs to be done to meet a shared goal and being willing to do it (Thomas, 2013). Many people who have not embraced leadership properly see it as the ability to control others or the outcome of a situation. MSC SGC has many different types of leaders; all are willing to do what needs to be done for the students of Mat Su College. These

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Opening Ceremony for the Paramedic & Nursing Wing

By Jason Jeffers

In 1958 Matanuska-Susitna College, then known as Palmer Community College, provided its first courses to students in the Matanuska Susitna Valley. Since that time the campus has seen significant growth both structure and the student body. March 8, 2013, marked the grand opening of the newest portion of the campus, the paramedic and nursing wing of Matanuska-Susitna College.

The new ambulance bay of the paramedic wing was crowded with people showing support for the newest addition to the college campus. It was standing room only for the group in attendance, which ranged from people who were new to the school this year, to the grandson of Mr. Snodgrass for whom Snodgrass hall was named. Former college director Bill Tull

(1959) and the Mat-Su College Ramblers provided live music to add to the festivities.

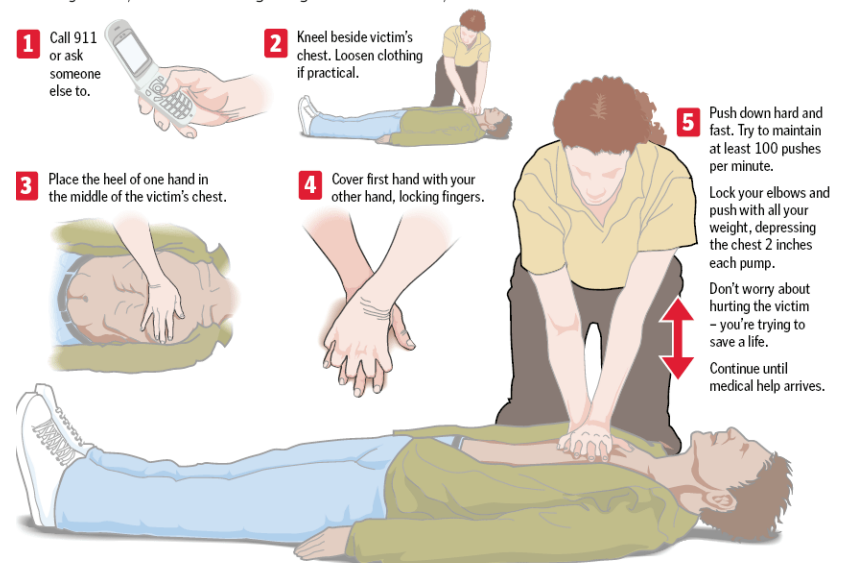
Dr. Talis Colberg gave an eloquent brief history of Matanuska-Susitna College and discussed the vision for the future. The college started just over 50 years ago with a strong agricultural focus. Since then the college has continued to grow and change as the needs of the student body have changed. The opening of the paramedic and nursing is a major step in the realization of a longer term development plan for Mat-Su College. The next major step will be the construction of a performing arts center.

The new wing has new technology that provides students an opportunity to implement skills in realistic scenarios. The nursing wing is setup to be sectioned off in rooms, each

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Hands-only CPR

The latest research shows that chest compressions alone are the most effective way for an untrained bystander to save a life after an adult collapses from cardiac arrest. The technique shown here should not be performed on infants, children, drowning victims, or in cases involving a drug overdose. Otherwise, here's what to do.



SOURCES: American Heart Association; www.azshare.gov

DAVID RUTTI PHOTOGRAPHY

10 COLLEGE NEWS

"Campus Life"

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These student leaders meet each week on Wednesdays in FSM 205 (11:50 am to 12:50 pm) to discuss issues pertinent to the student body, find solutions to these issues, and decide activities to be held on campus. The results from MSC SGC are events or decisions that create or impact "Campus Life".

Recently the Dance Club, in cooperation with and funded by Mat-Su College SGC, held the "Ballroom Blitz" event on campus. The semi-formal event was a huge success and everyone who attended had great fun. The week of finals MSC SGC will provide snacks for all students all week as a student appreciation event. The SGC supports 18 clubs, each doing different events that are of interest to their members—the dance is just one such event. The newest club recognized by MSC SGC is the "League of Extraordinary Gamers"; this group holds game nights and tournament events. Other clubs like the Art Club or Metl Hedz offer opportunities to learn, study, and work in an environment conducive to synergy in their respective fields. The Art Club held a guest artist event that showcased watercolor methods. Metl Hedz club offers lab time every week on Thursdays (in FSM 208) where art and metalsmithing students have extra time to work and encourage each other in their respective art. Getting involved in a club often makes the time here at MSC better because you make friends and have a riotous good time! Our campus offers more than 18 clubs this semester—find out more by checking out the MSC SCG clubs page. There is also a calendar of events offered by these clubs.

None of these events or clubs would be possible without the student leaders who make these things happen. With

the graduating class of 2013, the SGC is losing many of its leaders thus creating opportunities for new blood to join the governing body. MSC SGC is looking for students who care what happens on campus, students who are willing to do what is needed, and want to benefit from the leadership skills learned while working with a successful team. Leadership service in college can be invaluable on a resume when seeking a position post graduation. So what do you think, do you have what it takes to be a MSC SGC leader? Are you willing to do what needs to be done? Start by attending a MSC SG Council meeting - don't wait. Contact SGC Executive staff in the SGC office in JKB 128 or at 907-745-9759. Remember, we meet Wednesdays in FSM 205 (11:50 am to 12:50 pm)—we look forward to meeting you!



A handful of Mat-Su College Student Government leaders.

Opening Ceremony

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of which contains the major hospital equipment necessary to provide care for patients. The paramedic wing has an



ambulance bay that will soon house an ambulance simulator to help provide a more realistic setting to practice care to critical patients. Each lab has a SimMan simulator. SimMan is much more than a plastic mannequin. SimMan is controlled by a computer that generates things like a heart beat that you can feel and hear, lungs sounds that can simulate various illnesses, veins that students can use to start IV's, and verbal responses to questions asked.

If you have not had a chance to see the new paramedic and nursing wing, it is worth the walk to view the new addition for yourself. Take a few minutes to explore the newest part of the Mat-Su College campus. Who knows? You might just be the next paramedic or nursing student!



Snodgrass Hall, Mat-Su College Campus.

Oil Painting

Sun Prints

Watercolor

Silk Painting

Digital
Photography

Printmaking

Sumi-e

Athabaskan
Beadwork

Animals in Pastels

Mixed Media

Beginning Drawing

Movement & Drumming



Workshops June 1
at
Mat-Su College

Mat-Sucollege
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

For more information contact Felicia Desimini
fdesimini@matsu.alaska.edu or 907.745.9755

matsu.alaska.edu/departments/fine-arts/machetanz-art-festival/

<https://www.facebook.com/Machetanz>



Thank you Mat-Su College for your participation in
our 2013 Annual Membership Meeting.

Your alternative energy displays were a big hit.

Mat-Su College truly is training the leaders of the
future, and we are proud that you are part of our
community.

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